

Senate Resolution No. 22

Introduced by Senator Morrow

Relative to the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War.

WHEREAS, July 27, 2003, marks the 50th anniversary of the armistice agreement between the United Nations and North Korea ending the three-year Korean War that began on June 25, 1950, with the invasion of South Korea by North Korea; and

WHEREAS, In this war there were 33,741 United States military personnel killed, 103,284 United States military personnel wounded, and 8,177 United States military personnel taken prisoner of war or reported missing in action; and

WHEREAS, On June 27, 1950, President Truman ordered United States Air and Naval forces to help defend South Korea and the United Nations asked member nations to aid South Korea; and

WHEREAS, On June 30, 1950, President Truman ordered United States ground troops to South Korea and General Douglas MacArthur was assigned as the commander of the United Nations Forces; and

WHEREAS, On September 15, 1950, in a surprise move that dramatically changed the course of the Korean War, United States Marines and soldiers of the United States 10th Corps made a successful amphibious landing at the Port of Inchon, the first amphibious landing against a hostile beachhead since the invasion of Okinawa in April 1945, during World War II; and

WHEREAS, In December 1950, when the First Marine Division was attacked by a numerically superior Chinese Communist army in the Chosin Reservoir area of North Korea, it fought valiantly to the Port of Hungnam where military personnel and equipment were evacuated by the United States Navy. Under the leadership of Major General O. P. Smith, United States Marine Corps, the Marines brought out their dead, their wounded, and most of their combat gear; and

WHEREAS, The Soviet Union soon began to supply North Korea with MIG-15 jets, and dogfights became an important part of the war when as many as 100 to 150 United States F-86 jets and Soviet-built MIG-15 jets fought heated air battles over North Korea; and

WHEREAS, The United States Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps lost more than 2,000 planes during the war, and allied fliers destroyed

more than 1,000 Communist planes and killed an estimated 300,000 enemy troops; and

WHEREAS, The allied naval forces included four battleships, eight cruisers, 16 aircraft carriers, and 80 destroyers, and the United States Navy supported land troops by firing at enemy targets and conducted a two-year siege of Wonsan, a Communist oil refining and industrial city; and

WHEREAS, The Korean War ended on July 27, 1953, when the United Nations and North Korea signed an armistice agreement; and

WHEREAS, A permanent peace treaty between South Korea and North Korea has never been signed; and

WHEREAS, The Korean War is often called “The Forgotten War” because many of our nation’s veterans have been forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Our nation’s Korean War veterans served their country with honor and dignity and we should remember the legacy of their courage; and

WHEREAS, Although the Korean War is termed by some as a “Police Action,” it was in fact a vicious and bloody war for those who fought it; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate hereby commemorates July 27, 2003, as the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

Senate Resolution No. 22 read and adopted by the Senate July 17, 2003.

Attest: _____
Secretary of the Senate

